

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please enter the following amendments without prejudice or disclaimer.

On page 1, please amend the title on line 1 as follows:

METHODS ~~AND COMPOSITIONS~~ FOR ASSAYING HOMOCYSTEINE

On page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 2, ending on line 7 as follows:

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/457,205, filed December 6, 1999, now pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/347,878, filed July 6, 1999, ~~now allowed~~ (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,376,210). The present application also claims priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/301,895, filed June 29, 2001, ~~now pending~~. The disclosure of the above-referenced applications is incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

On page 47, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 3, ending on line 5 as follows:

To 50 μ l of plasma sample in microcentrifuge tube or in uncoated 96-well plate was added 20 μ l of 1% TBP and 50 μ l of the wild type SAH hydrolase solution. After incubation at 25°C for 15 min, 20 μ l of the enzyme inhibitor solution was added to the reaction mixture, and incubated for 10 min. to inactivate SAH hydrolase.